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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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SUBJECT Airfield of Ryazan-Diagilevo

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

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DATE OF INFO

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. The RYAZAN (39°46'E/54°37'N) military airfield, about 3.5 miles northwest of the town and about 1 mile southwest of the railroad line to MOSCOW, was called the DIAGILEVO airfield after a nearby collective farm.
2. The large airfield had a 5,000 x 160-foot concrete runway, at the northern end of which two hangars were located (see Annex 1). The larger hangar had been built in 1948. Four large, multi-storied (probably four-story) brick barracks buildings, arranged in a square, were each about five hundred feet long. There was a spur track.
3. The following aircraft types were observed at the airfield between the fall of 1948 and May 1949:
  - a. 50 to 60 SB-2s: Twin-engine bombers with single rudder assembly.
  - b. A novel twin-engine aircraft type (Annex 2), seen since mid-April 1949: Long front compartment of fuselage; nose wheel; engines far projecting over leading edges of wings; wing tips and wing fillets considerably rounded. This aircraft, which was faster than the SB-2, resembled very much the German Do-217. Several planes of this type were observed in the air. \*
  - c. About ten twin-engine commercial aircraft generally used as passenger planes in the USSR. \*\*
  - d. Some U-2s

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
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4. There was very intensive day and night flying, i.e.:
  - a. Since mid-April 1949: Parachuting from twin-engine commercial planes of which two or three were continuously in the air. Parachuting was done by 10-to 25-man groups, jumping simultaneously from a plane at an altitude of about 1,000 feet.
  - b. Continuous night flying with SB-2s. The field had night lamps and revolving searchlights.
  - c. Continuous flight training with U-2s; towing of gliders.
5. According to the size of the barracks, the military occupation of the field was estimated at 2,500 men. Mostly air force soldiers were observed in the town of RYAZAN.
6. Practice flights with biplanes were observed at the civilian airfield located in the vicinity of the town.

25X1A ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comments:

- \* Possibly Boston-Liis.
- \*\* Probably LI-2s.

a. These statements confirm previous reports on the RYAZAN airfields. The western airfield is assumed to be occupied by a parachute unit or by a parachute school with assigned commercial units. It is not definitely known whether or not a runway is available. Another

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that there was no runway at the field.

b. From previous reports, a parachute school for beginners is assumed to be stationed at the airfield south of RYAZAN. This school is probably connected with the unit at the western airfield. Jumping from both U-2s and balloons and practices with cargo gliders were observed at the southern airfield.

- 2 Annexes:
1. Airfield of RYAZAN-DIAGILSVO.
  2. Twin-engine aircraft observed at the RYAZAN-DIAGILSVO military airfield.

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